

Message Text

SECRET

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44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O R 211658Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8132

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

S E C R E T CAIRO 14424

EXDIS

E.O. 11651: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, UR

SUBJECT: FAHMY AND GROMYKO

1. DURING MEETING WITH FAHMY TODAY I ASKED HIM ABOUT RUMORS FLYING ABOUT IN PRESS CORPS TO EFFECT THAT HE WOULD BE MEETING GROMYKO SOON. FAHMY DODGED THE QUESTION AND DENIED SPECIFIC RUMORS THAT HE WOULD BE GOING TO MOSCOW. WHEN ASKED ABOUT RECENT ARTICLE IN AL AHAM STATING THAT HE WOULD HAVE IMPORTANT MEETING IN EUROPEAN CAPITAL FAHMY SUGGESTED I ASK THE EDITOR OF AL AHAM.

2. I THEN TOLD FAHMY THAT SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN SAYING THAT FAHMY WAS PRESSING HARD FOR A MEETING WITH GROMYKO. FAHMY LAUGHED AND SAID THAT FOREIGN EMBASSY OFFICIALS WHO VISIT HIM ARE FREE TO SAY WHAT THEY WANT, BUT THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT THEIR STATEMENTS WERE TRUE, IF HE HAD WANTED TO MEET WITH GROMYKO, FAHMY CONTINUED, HE COULD HAVE MET WITH HIM ON FIFTEEN DIFFERENT OCCASIONS DURING UNGA IN NEW YORK HAD HE CHOSEN TO GO THERE.

3. COMMENT: WHILE HE NEVER FLATLY DENIED THE POSSIBILITY OF MEETING WITH GROMYKO IN THE NEAR FUTURE, FAHMY SOUGHT TO LEAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT

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NOTHING UNUSUAL ON THAT SCORE WAS IN THE OFFING. AS

REPORTED ELSEWHERE. CAIRO DIPLOMATIC AND JOURNALISTIC
COMMUNITIES BELIEVE THAT FAHMY-GROMYKO MEETING WILL
TAKE PLACE SOON. IF SO, FAHMY IS NOT TELLING.
MATTHEWS

SECRET

NNN

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